Secrt. II-87—100,000—21-5-52.

Revenue (1948) Department.

1948 SERIES.

G.O. No. 3024

Dated 20.12.1948.

Despatch Abstract.]

Prohibition - Amelioration - Proposals of the Retrenchment and Re-organisation Committee - Papers recorded -

Finance Department.

U.O.Note No.68002/47 Re-3 dated 2-1-1948

Expenditure on development activities.

An extract from the minutes of the Retrenchment and Reorganisation Committee on the above subject is attached. It may be sent to Revenue/Firka Development/Development Departments for further action. They may be requested to communicate to this section a copy of the orders that may be issued by the Government as a result of the recommedation of the Committee with a statement showing the anticipated savings, to be placed before the Retrenchment and Reorganisation Committee.

C.O. COOREY,
Secretary,
Retrenchment and Reorganisation Committee.

To
The Revenue/Firka Development/ Development Department.

EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE RETRENCHMENT AND REORGANISATIC
COMMITTEE HELD ON 23-12-1947 at pXm. (N

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Sri T.A. Ramalingam Chettiar, M.L.A.(Central) Chairman,
Sri K.P. Krishnan Nair,
Sri V. Ponnuswami Pillai,
Sri L. Venkatakrishna Ayyar,
Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao, M.L.C.,
Sri T. K. Duraiswami Ayyar,
Mr. O.O. Coorey, M.B.E., I.C.S.(Secretary) and
Sri C.S. Krishnaswami Ayyangar, (Assistant Secretary).

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Item 1. EXPENDITURE ON DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES:- The Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of Excise, Joint Registrar in charge of Prohibition, Registrar of Co-operative Societies and the Director of Industries and Commerce had a discussion in the morning with the Chairman of the Committee about the future of ameliorative and other work now done in the Prohibition Department. The Commissioner said that the Ministry had already agreed to the transfer of all ameliorative work to the Co operative Department and that the Enforcement work is being handed over gradually to the Police. He contemplated that very soon there would be no field staff working separately unde the Prohibition Department and the Commissioner of Excise would only exercise overall supervision over the working of Prohibition in the Province.

The Director of Industries and Commerce was of the view that, without a re-orientation of the activities of his department, he would have to continue the work with reference to Cottage Industries, as they legitimately belonged to his Depart ment. Personally, he would have no objection to the resolution passed at the Industrial Conference at Delhi recommending a separate department for Cottage Industries under a separate head. This would require a reorientation of the policy of the Industries Department and division of work between the Director of Industries and the new head for the cottage Industries. After some discussion he agreed that he would be prepared to send technical experts for training members of Co-operative Societies, when the Registrar applied for their services. He also either mentioned that the technical men in his Department were either working to train people for particular industries or were employed in the Special Firka Development Scheme under the Premier, and that there was no staff in his department to be handed over to another department. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies said that he was prepared to take over the ameliorative work, including the formation of Cottage Industries Societies from the Prohibition Department to his own Department, and that he would be prepared to surrnder 16 Special Development Officers, one for each district, if p.t.o.

if audit duties were taken away from the District Deputy Registrar, but he said that the other staff including the Assistant Development Officers should be continued, if all the items of ameliorative work that was now being done had to be continued.

The Committee considered the whole question of the ameliorative work done under the Prohibition Department. They were of opinion that Co-operative Societies should be formed for Cottage Industries to help toddy drawers and others released from work on account of the introduction of Prohibition. The Chief Industry now being started for the help of these persons is the making of jaggery from coconut or palm sweet toddy. It may be possible also to have other cottage Industries like coir manufacture etc. The work of organising and supervising these cottage Industries societies may be entrusted to the staff provided for cottage industries, including handloom weavers Societies. The Committee understand that a Separate Joint Registrar is to be appointed to be in charge of cottage Industries. That Joint Registrar can very well take up the organisation and supervision of these societies also. The Committee do not consider that any additional field staff is necessary for this purpose, apart from the staff that may be sanctioned for other Co-operative Cottage Industries. If this is accepted the Deputy Commissioner of Prohibition, the Special Development Officers and the Assistant Development Officers will be unnecessary.

The Committee consider that full benefit is not reaped for the money spent for recreational purposes. These purposes are not confined to the ex-addicts or those thrown out of employment on account of the introduction of Prohibition. From what the Committee have been able to see, the Rural Recreation Officers, Village Guides, and Ballad Singers have not been of much use, except for mere show. The expenditure on these staff at a time of stringency in the Provincial Finances does not seem to be justified. If these posts are abolished, the Chief Physical Instructor and the Assistant Physical Instructor will also have to be abolished. The Committeee recommended that the staff in the office of the Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies for Cottage Industries may be retained. They also recommend the continuance of the propaganda work through propaganda vans and cineme shows. The staff necessary for these purposes might be retained along with the Composers of Songs and the photographer. The Senior Inspectors and Junior Inspectors working in the Ameliorative Department might be retained for propaganda purposes and for organising better living and recreational activities through existing and new co-operative societies. They should be utilised only for propaganda purposes and not for office work.

In the result, the following staff alone need be retained:-

1 Deputy Commissioner of Prohibition and Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies (Rs.1,000) (to be merged in the Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Cottage Industries).

1 Manager (150--200)
2 Composers of songs (75)
5 Upper Division Clerks (80--125)
4 Lower Division clerks (45-90)
2 Typists (45-90)
16 Propaganda Van drivers (42)
16 Cinema Operators (75)
16 Cleaners (20)
4 Peons (16--25)
1 Photographer (75)
2 Reserve ~~Driver~~ Operators (80--2--100
1 Reserve Driver (45--3--75)
14 Senior Inspectors (90--120)
3 Junior Inspectors (85--90)
17 Peons (16--24)

to the extent of two per district, one functioning as the personal Assistant to the Deputy Registrar and the other as a touring officer. I shall even give up some of the ballad singers appointed at present at the rate one per revenue division, and the rural guides appointed at the rate of one per revenue division. But the following net staff will be necessary in each district.

(1) Two Assistant development officers (one of them to be personal assistant to the Deputy Registrar).
(2) 1 Rural Recreation officer per taluk.

But it will be possible to do justice to the triple programme of ameliorative work indicated in paragraph one above with this skeleton staff only if audit is separated from administration in this department and the Deputy Registrar in charge of the district is divested of audit work as recommended in my letter No.5912/47 L-dated 10-10-47 I submit that the Retrenchment Committee have agreed to this proposition and request that Government may transfer the ameliorative work to the Co-operative Department only when this separationof audit and administration is agreed to.

7. The Retrenchment Committee have suggested that the Joint Registrar who is now functioning as the Deputy Commissioner for Prohibition (Amelioration) may be retrenched and that the organisation of cottage industries may be looked after by the new Joint Registrar for Cottage Industries who is expected to be appointed by Government in pursuance of my letter No.9600/45.V.2 dated 9-10-47. The Committee's recommendation proceeds on the basis that the ameliorative work connected with prohibition is nothing more than the organisation of cottage industries. I have indicated above that ameliorative work embrace social and recreational activities. It has been my desire and it has been accepted at the Conference of Special Development officers convened by the Commissioner of Prohibition on 12 and 13-12-47 at Madras that every rural Co-operative credit society should add to their business functions two more activities, viz. (a) social activities and (b) rural recreation. Both these additional activities should be thrown open to members and non-members of these societies. The ultimate goal should be that a community centre should spring up in every village at which rural folk will gather for their sports activities Bhajana parties, fold dances, marriages, etc. Indeed, in the district of Salem, some societies have been able with their own funds and Government loans and subsidies to construct village halls cum godowns, where cooperative societies conduct their offices stock their grains, run libraries and reading rooms and provide facilities for youngmen and ex-addicts to play indoor and out-door games. All this means that a new orientation has to be given to the Cooperative Movement, as a whole. This can only be attained if an officer of the status and authority of a Joint Registrar is specially told off for this job. Moreover, the provision of employments to ex-toddy tappers is a responsibility of great mangnitude, which cannot be left to be attended to by Deputy Registrar in charge of districts alongside of their other responsibilities. A Joint Registrar, should look to this, in the same way as three officers on the Collector's grade were necessary to provide employment for the ex-services men in the Resettlement Department.

8. I append two statements, one showing the existing strength of the Ameliorative Staff in the 16 Prohibition districts together with their cost and another showing the skeleton staff and its cost according to the proposals now submitted.

9. In conclusion, may I make one more appeal to Government to look at the ameliorative programme of Prohibition from the point of view of the object of Prohibition itself. Prohibition was introduced not to prohibit drink by adding one mor weapon in the armoury of the Police, but it was introduced as a constructive programme to build up a new social structure in which the rural masses would be made to live a nobler and happier life without the curse of drink. If the ameliorative programme as chalked out by me is given up, this real objective of prohibition will be lost. I cannot emphasise this view of the matter with greater force than quoting the late lamented Mahatma Gandhi himself "We cannot eradicate the evil merely by passing laws. The addict will manage to satisfy his craving anyhow. Those carrying on the black trade will not readily give it up. Therefore the following steps will have to be taken simultaneously in order to make a success of the reform.

1. Passing of the requisite law;
2. Educating public opinion;
3. Opening at the same place as grog shops refreshment rooms selling harmless drinks, and providing newspapers, games, etc.
4. The income from the sale of intoxicants should be spent on cultivating public opinion in favour of Prohibition"

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1. Expenditure that would be incurred for the Ameliorative staff for 16 districts as per sanctioned strength for 1948-49.

Pay of officers	... 76,600	
Pay of Establishment	... 4,54,600	
Allowances	... 3,38,600	
Total	... 8,69,800	Rs.8.69 lakhs.

strength of the staff:-

Officers

Deputy Commissioner of Prohibition Amelioration) and Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies.
16 Special Development Officers.
Chief Physical Instructor.

ESTABLISHMENTS.

1 Manager.
61 Assistant Development Officers.
144 Rural Recreation officers.
2 Composers of songs.
3 Senior Inspectors
1 Junior Inspector
3 Upper division clerk
4 Lower division clerks
2 Typists.
144 Village Guides
63 Ballad singers
16 Propaganda/Drivers(Van)
8 Jeep Drivers.
16 Cinema operators
16 Cleaners
16 Stenographers
1 Assistant Physical Instructor.
102 Peons
1 Photographer.

II. Statement showing the expenditure that would be incurred for the Ameliorative staff for 1 year - as proposed by the Registrar of Co-operative societies, Madras.

(1 Deputy Commissioner, 2 Assistant Development officers/contd

Copy of letter Rc.No.8227/48 V.1 from the Registrar of Co-operative Sócieties, dated 15-2-1948 to the Secretary to Government, Dev. Dept.

Sub: Prohibition - Ameliorative work - Transfer from the Excise Department to the Co-operative Deptt.
Ref: Govt. Memo.No.1937-B.I/48-1, dated 21-1-1948.

I agree with the recommendation of the Retrenchment and Reorganisation Committee that the ameliorative work connecte with Prohibition which is now being attended to my the Excis Department may be transferred to the Cooperative Department. But I do not agree with that Committee in regard to the extent of retrenchment that has been proposed on account of this suggested transfer. The Committee have proceeded on the basis that ameliorative work connected with Prohibiti is nothing beyond the promotion of cottage industries like co-operative societies for the manufacture of Palmyra and coconut jaggery. This is not correct Government are aware that under the inspiration of the then Premier, Sri C. Rajagopalachariar, Mr. A.F.W.Dixon, I.C.S. and I planned out the ameliorative work in the district of Salem where prohibition was first introduced in eight more districts in 1946. Our view of ameliorative work connected with prohibition is that it consists of three parts.,

1) Provision of substitutes for drink and counter-attractions to drink.
2) Provision of employment to ex-toddy tappers on co-operative schemes like jaggery societies, land colonisation societies, milk supply societies etc
3) Co-ordination of the beneficient activities, of all other Departments of Government (a) by the organisation of Rural Uplift Schools in which officers of th various department of Government participate and build up village guides and (b) By joint visits of officers of various departments to villages which respond to rural uplift work.

2. The Reorganisation Committee appear to have no faith in the recreational activities conducted by the Amelioration department (item (i) above). My ideology is however, different. To my mind, the toddy shop and the arrack tavern were to the ex-addicts to drink what clubs are to the people in the towns. It was a place where he met his friend and enjoyed himself. When prohibition was introduced he was deprived of this pleasure. The one place where he found relief after his day's hard toil has been taken away from him. Some substitutes should be provided to fill the gap. This substitutew was found in practice in the sports field. I am aware that there is a criticism that many of the ex-addicts do not play but it cannot be denied that some do play and that many witness others play. I am also aware that there is a criticism that in many villages, the recreational activities, in spite of efforts, are not carried out every day systematically. But I should indicate that even in towns recreationnal activities organised by enthusiasts are not ~~carried-out-every-day-systematically.---But-I-should indicate-that-even-in-towns~~ conduct in many places in any sustained manner. It is often suggested that rural recreati is a success only when officers or other diginitaries visit villages: but it is not general experience that even in town recreational activities are a great success only when tournaments are held and trophies are given there at by distinguished personages. It is in recognition of this that the rura recreation programme of the Amelioration department was to organise firka tournaments, taluk tournaments, divisional tournaments and district tournaments at which tropies donate by munificient people were given away by eminent persons in the midst of large gatherings of enthusiastic speciators. The Retrenchment and Reorganisation Committee have been pleased to characterise such activities as "mere show". I confess that they are intended to be shows becuase such shows /p.t.o.

shows attract crowds and entertain them. They evoke laughter and merriment which villagers so sadly lack. Were it only for this sake, rural recreation must be continued in villages to make villagers happy. But there are more important reasons for promoting rural recreation on an extensive scale in the country-side and I shall indicate them below:

3. If there is one place where, more than in any other distinctions of caste and creed are forgotton, it is the sports field. India has perhaps never presented such a united front as it did when the Indian Cricket Team consisting of Hindus, Muslims Parsis and Christians Challenged the Australian team in Australia lastt month. The Hon'ble the Minister for Prohibition has observed during his tours that on the Chedu-Gudu field, Brahmins, Mudaliars, Naidus, Harijans, etc. mingle freely, thoroughly oblivious of the caste to which they belong or the religion they profess. Propaganda on behalf of communal harmony will not attain the objective before it unless it is supplemented by rural recreation which promotes communal harmony in practice and encourages sportsmen to compete at tournaments for the glory of their village. Indeed, the doctrine of untouchability has not been exploded more effectively in any other field than in the Chedu-gudu field, where the essence of the game lies in physical clasps. The Hon'ble the Minister for Prohibition will bear me out when I say that a high caste-man in Sumaithangi in North Arcot district held a Harijan, a raider into his field, in tight embrace, to score a point against the opposing team. I would request Government therefore, to ~~elli~~ at rural recreation not as mere play but as an effective method of promoting social reform and communal harmony.

4. Another important consideration for promoting rural recreation lies in the fact that with the attainment of independence, India needs a National Army and Home Guards. These are to be recruited not from physical unfits but from able-bodied citizens. If our army and our Home Guards are to be efficient, physical culture cannot be ingnored. During the last war, when recruitment was at its highest, I was Special Development Officer, In North Arcot. Invariably the recruiting officers selected their best recruits frmm Chedu-Gudu teams which competed successfully at the various tournaments held in pursuance of the rural recreation programme. Likewise, the best fied for recruitment for our National Army and for the home guards will be the sports clubs organised in villages as part of the ameliorative programme connected with prohibition.

5. For the reason stated above, I submit for the consideration of Government that it will not do merely to retain composers of songs the photographer and the staff connected with the propaganda vans. It is necessary that the entire rural recreation staff including the Chief Physical Instructor and the Assistant Physical Instructor of the Amelioration Department should be retained. Government have already incurred an Expenditure of Rs.23425/- in training batches of Rural Recreation officers consisting of 128 men. These men who have been trained at such expense should be retained not only to avoid the waste of money incurred on their traihing, and not only to fulfil the hopes of permanent retention given to them, but also for the sake of the national need for rural recreation inthe interest of communal harmony social reform and military recruitment.

6. At the same time, I recognize that the financial stringency with which the Provincial Government are confronted demands retrenchment. I am therefore agreeable to forego the Special Development Officers appointed in each district. I am also willing to retrn ch the Assistant Development Officers sanctioned to each district at the rate of one ~~functioning~~- per division to the extent of two per district, one functioning as the personal Assistant to the Deputy Registrar and the other as a touring officer. I shall even give up some of the ballad singers appointed at the present at the rate one per revenue division. /contd..

The Committee then took up the questionof Village and Firka Development Work. They had no remarks to offer on the Secretariat and the Headquarters staff which seemed to be devised on an economical scale, but they felt that the mufassal staff was planned on a very wide basis, especially the strength of Firka Development Officers, which works out to 6 officers for each Firka. This seemed to be far too many. Work might be started with two officers per firka and additional officers might be appointed, if necessary, later on. The number of peons provided also seemed to be very large. The Committee presumed that the Rural Recreational Officers and Ballad Singers were intended to move from area to area to train people and were not expected to be permanently working in any area. With reference to those working under the Board of Revenue and Excise Department the Committee had already expressed their views. In the light of these remarks the staff Rural Recreational Officers and Ballad Singers planned for Firka and Village Development might be reduced.

STAFF UNDER THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIES: Information might be called for from the Director of Industries and Commerce, as regards the staff actually employed and the work they are doing.

KHADI SCHEME: For 7 centres, the strength of officers wok out at the rate of 7 per centre; the number of other officers also seem to be very large. The need for so many officers, Managers and Assistants might be examined and the number cut down to the absolute minimum.

Copy of lr.C.R.454/48-H.1., dated 2-3-48 from the the Board of Revenue (Excise) Department, Madras addressed to the Secretary to Govt., Revenue Department, Fort St.Georg Madras.(with a copy of the Regr's report to Government.

Sub: PROHIBITION - Amelioration - Proposals for retrenchment and reorganisation - remarks - submitted -
Ref: Govt. Memo.No.6893-D/47-3 Rev., dated 9-1-1948.

REFERENCE.

In their memorandum cited, Government have called fo the remarks of the Board on the recommendations of the Retrenchment and Re-organisation Committee in respect of the staff employed for ameliorative work in the Prohibition districts in consultation with the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Madras. They have also called for a statement showing the anticipated savings if the Committee's recommendations are accepted. As desired by the Government the Registrar of Cooperative societies, Madras has been consulte in the matter and a copy of his report submitted to the Secretary to Government Development Department is enclosed.

2. The main recommendation of the Retrnchment and Re-organisation Committee is to entrust the work of organisi Co-operative societies of various types for the benefit of e tappers and others to the Co-operative Deptt. in which case the post of the Deputy Commissioner of Prohibition(Amelioration), the Special Development Officers and the Assistant Development Officers will be unnecessary. The idea seems to be that the staff that will be employed by the Co-operative Department for the development of Cottage industries will also attend to this work. This recommendation practically amounts to the transfer of the bulk of the work to the Co-operative Department. The Registrar of has stated in his report that he is prepared to take over the ameliorative work including the formation of Cottage Industries Societies in the Prohibition districts to his (Cooperative) Department, if audit is taken away from the District Deputy Registrars. He has also indicated in his report the minimum staff that will be required by him. The Board also has

p.t.o.

no objection to this proposal of transferring the work to the Co-operative Department.

3. The Retrenchment and Reorganisation Committee has suggested the abolition of the posts of Special Development Officers and Assistant Development Officers besides the retrenchment of the staff engaged for recreational activities The Board has considered the proposals of the Registrar and agrees with him that the posts of Special Development Officers may be abolished in the event of taking away the audit work from the District Deputy Registrars. As regards Assistant Development Officers the Board considers that at least two Assistant Development Officers for each district are quite essential as suggested by the Registrar and that the remaining posts of Assistant Development officers may be abolished.

4. As regards the staff for recreational activities, the Retrenchment and Reorganisation Committee do not seem to have much faith in this part of the ameliorative work and have therefore proposed drastic reduction in the staff. According to their proposal, there will be no Rural Recreation Officers, Ballad Singers, and Village Guides. On this question the Registrar of Co-operative Societies has given his views in his report and the Board agrees with him. As reported by him, the services of Rural Recreation Officers are quite essential and so also the posts of the Chief Physical Instructor and the Assistant Physical Instructor. With regard to the need for the continuance of the Rural Recreation Officers, the Hon'ble Minister for Phobibition in his recent speech at the conclusion of the training of the Rural Recreation Officers in Y.M.C.A. College of Physical Education, Saidapet, has stressed that Rural Recreation Officers constitute an important link between the Government and the people in schemes relating to rural welfare, and that these officers should be styled as "Rural welfare officers" in view of their intimate contact with village improvement measures. The Board, therefore, agrees with the views of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies in the matter and presses for the retention of the posts of Rural Recreation officers. As regards the posts of Ballad Singers, the Registrar of Co-operative societies, has indicated that some Ballad Singers will be required but he has not specified the number of Ballad singers actually required. The Board considers that atleast one Ballad Singer for each district will be required instead of one for each Revenue division as at present. As regards Village Guides the Board agrees with the recommendation of the Committee that these posts may be abolished.

5. The following statement shows the details of the expenditure on the staff and the net savings in respect of each of the above proposals.

	Expenditure of the staff (Rs.in lakhs).	Net Savings (Rs.in lakhs)
i) According to the present sanction	8.69	...
ii) According to the proposals of the Registrar of Copperative Societies, Madras (2 A.D.Os., 1 R.R.O. for each taluk along with the staff recommend by the Committee).	4.89	3.8
iii) According to the proposal of the Board (the staff recommended by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies with 1 Ballad Singer for each district.	5.06	3.63
iv) According to the recommendations of the Committee.	1.19	7.5

for each district, 1 Rural Recreation officer for each taluk, Chief Physical Instructor and Assistant Physical Inst

Pay of officers	..	Rs.14,760
Pay of Establishment	..	2,52,200
Pay of peons	..	6,530
Allowances	..	2,00,200
Peons	..	16,000
		Rs.4,89,690-Rs.4.89 lakh

INTRODUCTION OF PROHIBITION.

"People ready for the reform".

AHNEDABAD. SEPT. 21.

Under the caption "Prohibition of intoximants" Mahatma Gandhi writes in to-day's Harijan:-

This is the fittest time for this reform. There is a People's Government and Both parts of India including the Indian States are ready for the reform. All over the two parts there is shortage of foodstuffs and clothing. Dare one think of indulging in intoxicating-drinks or drugs when people are on the borderland of starvation and nakedness? The money spent on wines and opiates is not only a waste, but it adds to the loss of self-control. One labouring under the influence of intoxicants will do things which he will never do in a sober state. Thus from every point, of view prohibition is a vital necessity.

We cannot eradicate the evil merely by passing laws. The addict will manage to satisfy his craving anyhow. These carry ing black trade will not readily give it up.

Therefore the following stops will have to be taken simultaneously in order to make a success of the reform:-

(1) Passing of the requisite law (2) Educating public opinion (3) opening at the same place as grog shops refreshment rooms selling harmless drinks and providing newspapers, games etc. (4) the income from the income from the sale of intoxicants should be spent on cultivating public opinion in favour of Prohibition. It is criminal to spent the income from the sale of intoxicants on the education of the nation's children on other public services. The Government must overcome the temptation of using such revenue for nation building purposes. Experience has shown that the moral and physical gain of the abstainer more than makes up for the loss of this tainted revenue. If we eradicate the civil we will easily find other ways and means of increasing the nation's income - A-P.I.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
Revenue Department
G.O.Ms.No.3024, dated 20th December 1948.

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ABSTRACT

Prohibition - A-melioration - Proposals of the Retrenchment and Reorganisation Committee - Papers recorded -

READ:-

Government Memorandum No.6893/D/47-3, d/9-1-1948.
From the Board of Revenue, C.R.454/48.H1, d/2-3-1948.

O R D E R:

RECORDED.

(By Order of His Excellency the Governor)

x x x xx,
Secretary to Government.

To
The Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

/True Copy/

S. Jayasankar 11/6
Office Assistant,
Madras Record Office.

gs/3-2/

10/6/14